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Governor Scott Walker Attends 49th Annual Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Appleton – Governor Scott Walker joined Wisconsin's Homeland Security Advisor and Adjutant General of the Wisconsin National Guard, Major General Donald Dunbar and Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Brian Satula, today at the 49th Annual Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Held at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, over 400 representatives of fire, law enforcement, emergency management, and other first responder agencies were in attendance.

"We owe Wisconsin's first responders a debt of gratitude for their dedication and willingness to risk their lives and wellbeing to protect our citizens," Governor Walker said. "With their talents and training, we are able to quickly respond to, and resolve emergencies like natural disasters, disease, and threats to our security. This conference is a great chance for us to learn about emerging ways to protect our state and develop a plan to respond to crises should they occur."

"Keeping Wisconsin citizens safe is our top priority, and Wisconsin state, tribal and local partners continue to work collaboratively to address all hazards facing our state," said Maj. Gen. Dunbar. "This conference helps us to share best practice and lessons learned from past event. It's a chance to discuss ongoing issues such as cyber security, response to disease outbreaks from Ebola to Avian Influenza and to improve our response and recovery efforts to severe storms and other emergencies and disasters."

The Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security is one of the oldest emergency management conferences in the nation. The safety and security of Wisconsin citizens is incredibly important, and this conference is an excellent opportunity for safety professionals from across the state to gather and learn about ways to better protect the state. Recent emergency planning and response efforts include:

• **Cyber Security** – Under the leadership of Major General Donald Dunbar and Wisconsin's Chief Information Officer David Cagigal, the state continues to work to

ensure Wisconsin citizens are protected from cyber security threats. Every fall, the annual Cyber Security Summit provides the opportunity for sharing resources, best practices, and lessons learned across the public and private sectors. Governor Walker also recently announced the formation of a new cyber protection team made of up soldiers with the Wisconsin National Guard. The protection team has developed relationships with local governments and private industries and is an important asset in sharing resources and defending Wisconsin's cyber infrastructure.

• **See Something, Say Something** – In 2012, Governor Walker launched the "See Something, Say Something" campaign in Wisconsin. This simple and effective campaign raises public awareness of indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, and emphasizes the importance of remaining conscientious of their surroundings and reporting any suspicious activity to law enforcement.

Since taking office, Governor Walker has also helped the state respond to traditional emergencies, such as floods and tornadoes, as well as nontraditional events such as a propane shortage and drought. In order to protect the people of Wisconsin, it is crucial to continue planning and preparedness efforts, such as the Governor's Conference on Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

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